



TERRY KATSMAS

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 26th ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

Phone: (608) 266-0656
Toll-Free: (888) 529-0026
Rep.Katsma@legis.wi.gov

P.O. Box 8952
Madison, WI 53708-8952

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Contact: Rep. Terry Katsma
(608) 266-0656

Rep. Katsma Votes for Worker Freedom

Madison... State Representative Terry Katsma (R–Oostburg) voted today to promote personal freedom in the workplace by approving the right-to-work bill, [Senate Bill 44](#), in the state Assembly. With Governor Walker’s signature, the bill will become law.

“Defending personal liberties and improving our state’s business climate have always been fundamental goals of the Republican Party and central tenets of my own political philosophy,” explained Rep. Katsma. “This is the right thing to do.”

The legislation does not void any existing contracts among employers, unions or workers. Rather, it ensures that future contracts negotiated by unions cannot require workers to pay dues or fees as a condition of employment.

“Over the past several months—ever since I became a candidate for public office—I’ve had hundreds of conversations with workers and employers who have helped me understand the implications of this issue. I have been very impressed overall with the civility of these passionate discussions.

“A huge number of people in my district are going to continue to choose to be union members and receive all the benefits that unions provide, but I’m glad that folks who prefer not to join will be able to make that choice freely. We have seen enormous economic progress in Wisconsin over the past four years, and with this bill’s passage, we will soon have another tool to complement our successful tax reforms.”

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Rep. Katsma represents the 26th Assembly District which includes the cities of Sheboygan and Sheboygan Falls; the villages of Adell, Oostburg, Random Lake and Cedar Grove; and the towns of Lima, Holland, Sherman and Wilson. Katsma serves as the Vice-Chair of the Committee on Financial Institutions and as a member of the committees on Consumer Protection, Housing and Real Estate, Ways and Means and Workforce Development.